

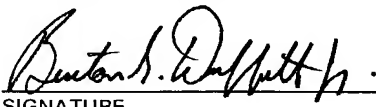
|   |  |   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|---|--|
| FORM-PTO-1390<br>(Rev. 9-2001)  |  | U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE |  | ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER<br><br>003300-927  |  |
| <b>TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES<br/>DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)<br/>CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371</b>   |  |   |  | U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37 C.F.R. 1.5)<br>(unassigned) <b>10/089317</b> |  |
| INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.<br>PCT/SE00/01863   |  | INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE<br>26 September 2000          |  | PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED<br>7 October 1999   |  |
| TITLE OF INVENTION<br>METHOD OF IMPREGNATION  |  |   |  |   |  |
| APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US<br>MIKKEL SELDER  |  |   |  |   |  |
| <p>Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a <b>FIRST</b> submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.</li> <li>2. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a <b>SECOND</b> or <b>SUBSEQUENT</b> submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.</li> <li>3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (21) indicated below.</li> <li>4. <input type="checkbox"/> The US has been elected by the expiration of 19 months from the priority date (Article 31).</li> <li>5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2))           <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).</li> <li>b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has been communicated by the International Bureau.</li> <li>c. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).</li> </ol> </li> <li>6. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2))           <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <input type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto.</li> <li>b. <input type="checkbox"/> has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</li> </ol> </li> <li>7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3))           <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <input type="checkbox"/> are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).</li> <li>b. <input type="checkbox"/> have been communicated by the International Bureau.</li> <li>c. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.</li> <li>d. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made. (Signed Declaration will follow).</li> </ol> </li> <li>8. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).</li> <li>9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)). (Signed Declaration will follow).</li> <li>10. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).</li> </ol> <p><b>Items 11 to 20 below concern document(s) or information included:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>11. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.</li> <li>12. <input type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.</li> <li>13. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A <b>FIRST</b> preliminary amendment.</li> <li>14. <input type="checkbox"/> A <b>SECOND</b> or <b>SUBSEQUENT</b> preliminary amendment.</li> <li>15. <input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification.</li> <li>16. <input type="checkbox"/> A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.</li> <li>17. <input type="checkbox"/> A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 35 U.S.C. 1.821 - 1.825.</li> <li>18. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the published international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</li> <li>19. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</li> <li>20. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other items or information:</li> </ol> <p>A certified copy of Swedish Application No. 9903622-0 filed 7 October 1999, was submitted during the international phase of the examination. Thus the claim for priority has been perfected.</p> |  |   |  |   |  |



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|---|--------------|--|------------------|---|--|
| U.S. APPLICATION NO (If known, see 37 CFR 1.51)<br>(unassigned) <b>10/089317</b>  |              | INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO<br>PCT/SE00/01863 |                  | ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER<br>003300-927  |  |
| 21. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The following fees are submitted:   |              |  |                  | CALCULATIONS  |  |
| <b>Basic National Fee (37 CFR 1.492(a)(1)-(5)):</b><br>Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) nor international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE and International Search Report not prepared by the EPO or JPO ..... \$1,040.00 (960)<br>International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE but International Search Report prepared by the EPO or JPO ..... \$890.00 (970)<br>International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE but international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE ..... \$740.00 (958)<br>International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) paid to U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE but all claims did not satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) ..... \$710.00 (956)<br>International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) paid to U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) ..... \$100.00 (962)<br><b>ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT =</b> |              |  |                  |   |  |
| Surcharge of \$130.00 (154) for furnishing the oath or declaration later than 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 <input type="checkbox"/> months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)).   |              |  |                  | \$ 1,040.00   |  |
|   |              |  |                  | \$ --   |  |
| Claims  | Number Filed | Number Extra                                   | Rate             |   |  |
| Total Claims  | 20 -20 =     | 0  | X\$18.00 (966)   | \$ --   |  |
| Independent Claims  | 1 -3 =       | 0  | X\$84.00 (964)   | \$ --   |  |
| Multiple dependent claim(s) (if applicable)   |              |  | + \$280.00 (968) | \$ --   |  |
| <b>TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =</b>  |              |  |                  | \$ 1,040.00   |  |
| Reduction for 1/2 for filing by small entity, if applicable (see below).  |              |  |                  | +   |  |
| <b>SUBTOTAL =</b>   |              |  |                  | \$ 520.00   |  |
| Processing fee of \$130.00 (156) for furnishing the English translation later than 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 <input type="checkbox"/> months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)).  |              |  |                  | \$ --   |  |
|   |              |  |                  | +   |  |
| <b>TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =</b>   |              |  |                  | \$ 520.00   |  |
| Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 (581) per property  |              |  |                  | +   |  |
| <b>TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =</b>  |              |  |                  | \$ 520.00   |  |
|   |              |  |                  | Amount to be refunded: \$   |  |
|   |              |  |                  | charged: \$   |  |
| a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Small entity status is hereby claimed.   |              |  |                  |   |  |
| b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$ <u>520.00</u> to cover the above fees is enclosed.   |              |  |                  |   |  |
| c. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No. <u>02-4800</u> in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.  |              |  |                  |   |  |
| d. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. <u>02-4800</u> . A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.   |              |  |                  |   |  |
| <b>NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.</b>  |              |  |                  |   |  |
| SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:<br>Benton S. Duffett, Jr.<br>BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.<br>P.O. Box 1404<br>Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404<br>(703) 836-6620   |              |  |                  |   |  |
|   |              |  |                  | <br>SIGNATURE |  |
|   |              |  |                  | Benton S. Duffett, Jr.<br>NAME  |  |
| 22,030<br>REGISTRATION NUMBER   |              |  |                  | March 29, 2002<br>DATE  |  |

Patent  
Attorney's Docket No. 003300-927

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

|                             |   |                                   |
|-----------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| In re Patent Application of | ) | <b>BOX PCT</b>                    |
|                             | ) |                                   |
| MIKKEL SELDER               | ) | <b>Attention: DO/EO/US</b>        |
|                             | ) |                                   |
| Application No.: Unassigned | ) | <b>Group Art Unit: Unassigned</b> |
|                             | ) |                                   |
| Filed: March 29, 2002       | ) |                                   |
|                             | ) |                                   |
| For: METHOD OF IMPREGNATION | ) | <b>Examiner: Unassigned</b>       |

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is a national phase filing of International Application No. PCT/SE00/01863  
filed September 26, 2002.

Please amend the Application as indicated.

**IN THE ABSTRACT:**

Please add the Abstract of the Disclosure that is provided on a separate sheet.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Kindly replace Claims 3 to 6, 9 and 10 as follows:

3. (Amended) A process according to claim 1, characterized in that in step c)  
the autoclave is set under an over-pressure of up to about 15 bar.

4. (Amended) A process according to claim 1, characterized in the in step d)  
the temperature of the cold linseed oil is maintained within the range about 75 to 85° C.

5. (Amended) A process according to claim 1, characterized in that in step d) the over-pressure is from about 5 bar to about 12 bar.

6. (Amended) A process according to claim 1, characterized in that the impregnation is carried out with a processed linseed oil substantially consisting of linolenic acid, linolic acid and oleic acid, mainly in the form of triglycerides, the contents of the oil of free tocoferol being less than about 100 ppm.

9. (Amended) A process according to claim 1, characterized in that the product in a further final step is dried in an air flow of environmental temperature.

10. (Amended) Products produced by the process according to claim 1.

Please add the following new Claims 11 to 20:

11. (New) A process according to claim 2, characterized in that in step c) the autoclave is set under an over-pressure of up to about 15 bar.

12. (New) A process according to claim 2 characterized in the in step d) the temperature of the cold linseed oil is maintained within the range about 75 to 85° C.

13. (New) A process according to, claim 3 characterized in the in step d) the temperature of the cold linseed oil is maintained within the range about 75 to 85° C.

14. (New) A process according to, claim 2 characterized in that in step d) the over-pressure is from about 5 bar to about 12 bar.

15. (New) A process according to, claim 3 characterized in that in step d) the over-pressure is from about 5 bar to about 12 bar.

16. (New) A process according to claim 2 characterized in that the impregnation is carried out with a processed linseed oil substantially consisting of linolenic acid, linolic acid and oleic acid, mainly in the form of triglycerides, the contents of the oil of free tocoferol being less than about 100 ppm.

17. (New) A process according to claim 3 characterized in that the impregnation is carried out with a processed linseed oil substantially consisting of linolenic acid, linolic acid and oleic acid, mainly in the form of triglycerides, the contents of the oil of free tocoferol being less than about 100 ppm.

18. (New) A process according to claim 2, characterized in that the product in a further final step is dried in an air flow of environmental temperature.

19. (New) A process according to claim 9, characterized in that the product in a further final step is dried in an air flow of environmental temperature.

20. (New) Products produced by the process according to claim 2.

**REMARKS**


The present Amendment adds an Abstract of the Disclosure on a separate sheet and eliminates the use of multiple dependency.

An Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently herewith.

The examination and allowance of the Application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

By:   
Benton S. Duffett, Jr.  
Registration No. 22,030

P.O. Box 1404  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404  
(703) 836-6620

Date: March 29, 2002

Application No. Unassigned  
Attorney's Docket No. 003300-927  
Mark-up of Claims - Page 1 of 1

**Attachment to Preliminary Amendment dated March 29, 2002**  
**Mark-Up of Claims 3-6 and 9-10**

3. (Amended) A process according to claim 1 [or 2], characterized in that in step c) the autoclave is set under an over-pressure of up to about 15 bar.

4. (Amended) A process according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in the in step d) the temperature of the cold linseed oil is maintained within the range about 75 to 85° C.

5. (Amended) A process according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that in step d) the over-pressure is from about 5 bar to about 12 bar.

6. (Amended) A process according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that the impregnation is carried out with a processed linseed oil substantially consisting of linolenic acid, linolic acid and oleic acid, mainly in the form of triglycerides, the contents of the oil of free tocoferol being less than about 100 ppm.

9. (Amended) A process according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that the product in a further final step is dried in an air flow of environmental temperature.

10. (Amended) Products produced by the process according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1.

## METHOD OF IMPREGNATION

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Another object of the invention is to provide a multi-step process utilizing an initial heating step in which water in the form of vapour and enclosed air is released from the product, and a subsequent step where the result of the water and air release is used to improve the uptake of oil.

A particular object of the invention is to make certain in the process that the transition from the vacuum-heating step to the pressure-cooling step takes place continuously so that maximum benefit of this transition will be obtained.

For these and other objects which will be clear from the following description the invention provides for a process for the impregnation of cellulose-based products, particularly wood, with linseed oil, the products being treated with linseed oil at an increased temperature and under pressure in an autoclave. The invention is characterized by the following steps:

- a) the autoclave is charged with the product to be treated,
- b) linseed oil heated to a temperature exceeding the boiling point of water is introduced into the autoclave so that the product is surrounded by linseed oil,
- c) while keeping the temperature at a constant level the autoclave is put under vacuum, water in the form of steam and air enclosed in the product being released from the product,
- d) the linseed oil is discharged from the autoclave with simultaneous supply of linseed oil having a temperature lower than the boiling point of water and the autoclave is preferably put under overpressure, and
- e) the cold oil is discharged from the autoclave which, optionally, for removal of excess oil from the product is again put under vacuum, the impregnated product then being removed from the autoclave.

The process according to the present invention is in principle based on the new concept that the switching over of the autoclave from hot linseed oil under vacuum takes place continuously by introducing cold linseed oil simultaneously with discharging the hot linseed oil from the autoclave, the autoclave being progressively put under overpressure. By this procedure the vacuum in the product generated under heat and autoclaved vacuum is utilized at a maximum so that optimal uptake of linseed oil takes place in connection with the supply of cold linseed oil and putting the autoclave under overpressure.

In the present disclosure the expressions "hot linseed oil" and "cold linseed oil" thus mean that the temperature of the oil in the first case exceeds the boiling point of water and in the latter case is lower than the boiling point of water, respectively.

In step a) it is suitable to heat the linseed oil to a temperature of about 140-180°C, whereas in the latter step c) it is preferred to put the autoclave under over-

pressure of up to about 15 bar, for example from about 5 to about 12 bar.

In the cooling step d) the temperature of the cold linseed oil is suitably maintained within the range about +75 to about +85°C.

In the process according to the present invention it is particularly preferred to use for the impregnation a processed linseed oil substantially consisting of linolenic acid, linolic acid and oleic acid, mainly in the form of triglycerides, the content of free tocoferol of the linseed oil being less than about 100 ppm. The linseed oil content of free tocoferol is suitably less than about 75 ppm and particularly less than about 50 ppm. Details regarding such processed linseed oil and the process for the manufacture thereof is found in patent application No. SE 9903621-2 filed simultaneously herewith with the same applicant and the same inventor. The contents of this co-pending patent application is incorporated herein by reference.

Finally, the process may in a further final step be dried in an air flow of environmental temperature.

The present invention also covers products, particularly wood products, obtained by the process described above.

The invention will in the following be further described in connection with no-limiting examples, wherein the percentages given relate to weight if not otherwise stated.

#### EXAMPLE 1

##### Impregnation procedure

In connection with the impregnation procedure there is used Swedish cold-pressed linseed oil from the harvest of 1998.

An autoclave is charged with lumber to be treated, in the present case rods which have been distributed and anchored. The autoclave is charged with linseed oil

The lumber made subject to impregnation can be of any type. In Sweden the trend is presently towards the common coniferous trees, namely fir and pine. The lumber can be fresh or dried in different degrees, i.e. contain different amounts of moisture.

The time periods of the different process steps will have to be adapted to the parameters of the lumber (dimension, moisture content, type of wood, core and/or sapwood) and to the uptake level desired. The uptake level can be given in quantity of linseed oil per cubic meter or percent of the dry density of the lumber which is about 450 kg/m<sup>3</sup>, and further with regard to the intended use of the impregnated lumber. The higher the uptake level obtained the better resistance of the lumber and the harder conditions endured by lumber in its practical use.

Different types of lumber have been test impregnated in accordance with the process of the invention, and in the following table these types of lumber and the uptake levels obtained are given.

TABLE

| Type of lumber<br>(density 450 kg/m <sup>3</sup> ) | Approximate uptake<br>level % | About kg/m <sup>3</sup> |
|--|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Pine sap   | 100%                          | 450 kg/m <sup>3</sup>   |
| Pine core  | 40%                           | 180 kg/m <sup>3</sup>   |
| Fir sap  | 40%                           | 180 kg/m <sup>3</sup>   |
| Fir core   | 20%                           | 90 kg/m <sup>3</sup>    |

Lumber impregnated to high levels of uptake, i.e. up to 100%, can according to ongoing tests endure long periods of time under quite severe conditions, i.e. freely outdoors in ground or in ground contact.

It should be observed that the present invention is not restricted to the specific embodiments exemplified above. Thus, modifications and changes can be carried out within the frame-work of the invention and such changes and modifications are easily understood by those skilled in the art.

CLAIMS

1. A process for the impregnation of cellulose-based products, particularly wood, comprising treatment of the product with linseed oil at an increased temperature under pressure in an autoclave, characterized by the steps:
- 5 a) charging the autoclave with the product to be treated,  
b) charging the autoclave with linseed oil heated to a temperature exceeding the boiling point of water so that the product will be surrounded by linseed oil,  
10 c) applying vacuum to the autoclave while keeping the temperature constant, water in the form of steam and air enclosed in the product being released from the product,  
d) discharging the linseed oil from the autoclave with  
15 simultaneous supply of linseed oil of a temperature lower than the boiling point of water and preferably applying over-pressure to the autoclave, and  
e) discharging the cold oil from the autoclave which, optionally, for the removal of excess oil from the product is again set under vacuum, whereafter the impregnated product is removed from the autoclave.
- 20 2. A process according to claim 1, characterized in that in step a) the linseed oil is heated to a temperature of about 140 to 180°C.
- 25 3. A process according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that in step c) the autoclave is set under an over-pressure of up to about 15 bar.
4. A process according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that in step d) the temperature  
30 of the cold linseed oil is maintained within the range about 75 to 85°C.
5. A process according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that in step d) the over-pressure is from about 5 bar to about 12 bar.
- 35 6. A process according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the impregnation is carried out with a processed linseed oil substantially consisting

of linolenic acid, linolic acid and oleic acid, mainly in the form of triglycerides, the contents of the oil of free tocoferol being less than about 100 ppm.

7. A process according to claim 6, characterized in  
5 that the contents of free tocoferol of the linseed oil is less than about 75 ppm.

8. A process according to claim 7, characterized in that the contents of free tocoferol of the linseed oil is less than about 50 ppm.

10 9. A process according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the product in a further final step is dried in an air flow of environmental temperature.

15 10. Products produced by the process according to any one of the preceding claims.

### Abstract of the Disclosure

A process for the impregnation of cellulose-based products, particularly wood, comprising treatment of the product with linseed oil at an increased temperature under pressure in an autoclave, comprising the steps: a) charging the autoclave with the product to be treated, b) charging the autoclave with linseed oil heated to a temperature exceeding the boiling point of water so that the form of steam and air enclosed in the product being released from the product, d) discharging the linseed oil from the autoclave with simultaneous supply of linseed oil of a temperature lower than the boiling point of water and preferable applying over-pressure to the autoclave, and e) discharging the cold oil from the autoclave which, optionally, for the removal of excess oil from the product is again set under vacuum, whereafter the impregnated product is removed from the autoclave.



**COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY  
FOR UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION**

Attorney's Docket No.  
003300-927

As a below-named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name;

I BELIEVE I AM THE ORIGINAL, FIRST AND SOLE INVENTOR (if only one name is listed below) OR AN ORIGINAL, FIRST AND JOINT INVENTOR (if more than one name is listed below) OF THE SUBJECT MATTER WHICH IS CLAIMED AND FOR WHICH A PATENT IS SOUGHT ON THE INVENTION ENTITLED:

METHOD OF IMPREGNATION

the specification of which

(check one)

☐

is attached hereto;

☐

was filed on 26 September 2000 as

Application No. PCT/SE00/01863

and was amended on \_\_\_\_\_;  
(if applicable)

I HAVE REVIEWED AND UNDERSTAND THE CONTENTS OF THE ABOVE-IDENTIFIED SPECIFICATION, INCLUDING THE CLAIMS, AS AMENDED BY ANY AMENDMENT REFERRED TO ABOVE;

I ACKNOWLEDGE THE DUTY TO DISCLOSE TO THE OFFICE ALL INFORMATION KNOWN TO ME TO BE MATERIAL TO PATENTABILITY AS DEFINED IN TITLE 37, CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, Sec. 1.56 (as amended effective March 16, 1992);

I do not know and do not believe the said invention was ever known or used in the United States of America before my or our invention thereof, or patented or described in any printed publication in any country before my or our invention thereof or more than one year prior to said application; that said invention was not in public use or on sale in the United States of America more than one year prior to said application; that said invention has not been patented or made the subject of an inventor's certificate issued before the date of said application in any country foreign to the United States of America on any application filed by me or my legal representatives or assigns more than twelve months prior to said application;

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code Sec. 119 and/or Sec. 365 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate as indicated below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate on this invention having a filing date before that of the application(s) on which priority is claimed:

# COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

Attorney's Docket No.  
003300-927

| COUNTRY/INTERNATIONAL | APPLICATION NUMBER | DATE OF FILING<br>(day, month, year) | PRIORITY<br>CLAIMED        |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Sweden                | 9903622-0          | 7 October 1999                       | YES <u>X</u> NO <u>  </u>  |
|                       |                    |                                      | YES <u>  </u> NO <u>  </u> |

I hereby appoint the following attorneys and agent(s) to prosecute said application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith and to file, prosecute and to transact all business in connection with international applications directed to said invention:

|                           |        |                         |        |                        |        |
|---------------------------|--------|-------------------------|--------|------------------------|--------|
| William L. Mathis         | 17,337 | Eric H. Weisblatt       | 30,505 | Bruce T. Wieder        | 33,815 |
| Robert S. Swecker         | 19,885 | James W. Peterson       | 26,057 | Todd R. Walters        | 34,040 |
| Platon N. Mandros         | 22,124 | Teresa Stanek Rea       | 30,427 | Ronni S. Jillions      | 31,979 |
| Benton S. Duffett, Jr.    | 22,030 | Robert E. Krebs         | 25,885 | Harold R. Brown III    | 36,341 |
| Norman H. Stepno          | 22,716 | William C. Rowland      | 30,888 | Allen R. Baum          | 36,086 |
| Ronald L. Grudziecki      | 24,970 | T. Gene Dillahunt       | 25,423 | Brian P. O'Shaughnessy | 32,747 |
| Frederick G. Michaud, Jr. | 26,003 | Patrick C. Keane        | 32,858 | Kenneth B. Leffler     | 36,075 |
| Alan E. Kopecki           | 25,813 | B. Jefferson Boggs, Jr. | 32,344 | Fred W. Hathaway       | 32,236 |
| Regis E. Slutter          | 26,999 | William H. Benz         | 25,952 | Wendi L. Weinstein     | 34,456 |
| Samuel C. Miller, III     | 27,360 | Peter K. Skiff          | 31,917 | Mary Ann Dillahunt     | 34,576 |
| Robert G. Mukai           | 28,531 | Richard J. McGrath      | 29,195 | Donna M. Meuth         | 36,607 |
| George A. Hovanec, Jr.    | 28,223 | Matthew L. Schneider    | 32,814 | Mark R. Kresloff       | 42,766 |
| James A. LaBarre          | 28,632 | Michael G. Savage       | 32,596 |                        |        |
| E. Joseph Gess            | 28,510 | Gerald F. Swiss         | 30,113 |                        |        |
| R. Danny Huntington       | 27,903 | Charles F. Wieland III  | 33,096 |                        |        |



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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

|   |  |           |             |            |
|---|--|-----------|-------------|------------|
| FULL NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR             |  | SIGNATURE |             | DATE       |
| MIKKEL SELDER                                   |  |           |             | 2002 04 29 |
| RESIDENCE                                       |  |           | CITIZENSHIP |            |
| Huddungeby, Sweden                              |  |           | Sweden      |            |
| POST OFFICE ADDRESS                             |  |           |             |            |
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| FULL NAME OF SECOND JOINT INVENTOR, IF ANY      |  | SIGNATURE |             | DATE       |
|   |  |           |             |            |
| RESIDENCE                                       |  |           | CITIZENSHIP |            |
|   |  |           |             |            |
| POST OFFICE ADDRESS                             |  |           |             |            |
|   |  |           |             |            |